



Samoa

GENERAL INFORMATION

Samoa is a country with an approximate area of 3 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 178,943 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 107 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 46% and the proportion above age 60 is 5% (UNO, 2009). The literacy rate is 99% for men and 100% for women (UN Statistics, 2008). The life expectancy at birth is 69 years for males and 75 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is 60 years for males and 75 years for females (UNPD, 2010). The country is in the Lower Middle income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product is 7.04% and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is \$161.0 (WHO, 2006). Suicide rate information is not available. In Samoa, neuropsychiatric disorders are estimated to contribute to 12.5% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2008).

GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy exists and was approved, or most recently revised, in 2006. Mental health is also specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan exists and was approved, or most recently revised, in 2006. The mental health plan components include:

- Funding allocation for the implementation of half or more of the items in the mental health plan.
- Integration of mental health services into primary care.

Dedicated mental health legislation exists and was initiated, or most recently revised, in 2007. Legal provisions concerning mental health are not covered in other laws (e.g., welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

FINANCING

Mental health expenditures by the government health department/ministry are not available. Mental hospital expenditures are not available.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Primary Care

Prescription regulations do not authorize primary doctors or nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. It is unknown whether the majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Information regarding referral procedures is unavailable.

Mental Health Services

Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	1	0.56	0	0.00
Day treatment facilities	1	0.56	UN	UN
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	0	0.00	NA	NA
Community residential facilities	0	0.00	NA	NA
Beds/places in community residential facilities	0	0.00	NA	NA
Mental hospitals	UN	UN	UN	UN
Beds in mental hospitals	UN	UN	UN	UN

Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	65.38	53%	9%
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	NA	NA	NA
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	NA	NA	NA
Admissions to mental hospitals	6.15	18%	9%

Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	UN
More than 1 and less than 5 years	UN
More than 5 years	UN

HUMAN RESOURCES

Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	0.56	UN
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	UN	UN
Nurses	1.68	UN
Psychologists	0.00	UN
Social workers	0.00	UN
Occupational therapists	0.00	UN
Other health workers	0.00	NA

Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country?	UN	UN
Number of members	UN	UN
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	UN	UN

MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders at country level

Type of Medicines	Expenditures at country level per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines ¹	UN
Medicines used for bipolar disorders ²	UN
Medicines for psychotic disorders ³	UN
Medicines used for general anxiety ⁴	UN
Medicines used for mood disorders ⁵	UN

¹ N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

² N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

³ N05A (excluding N05AN)

⁴ N05B & N05C

⁵ N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

	Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported	Data on age and gender are collected and reported	Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	Yes	No	Yes
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	Yes	No	Yes
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	No	Yes
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	No	No	No
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	No	No	No
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	No	No	No
Admissions in mental hospitals	No	No	No
Days spent in mental hospitals	No	No	No
Admissions in community residential facilities	NA	NA	NA

Note: Mental health data (either on the public system, private system, or both) have been compiled for general health statistics in the last three years, but not in a specific mental health report.